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1959-02-08, Bette to Parents

Bette J. Barto

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Subject Terms

Women and the military, Women and war, United States -- Air Force, United States -- Army -- Air Forces, Photographs, Armed Forces -- Correspondence, Correspondence -- Vietnam War -- 1961-1975, Christmas

Summary

This collection contains 139 correspondence from Maj. Bette J. Barto, USAFE to her parents while serving as a nurse during the late 1950s and 1960s. Also included are three photographs, one special orders document, and one marriage license. In several cases, Bette refers to her parents as "Lizzie" and "Hugh Elmer," or simply "Elmer." Three letters from 1961 or 1962 are undated and placed in a separate folder.

Keywords

1959-02-08

Identifier

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Sunday
8 Feb 59
1²⁵
pm

Dear Mom and Cloner,

I'm about ready to go to work again - 3 more days of 3-11 before I go on 11-7. more fun. Today I'm to work on the med. ward and I hate it, but reckon that's what makes the world go round.

There's nothing much to write about since the last letter. I haven't seen anybody or been anywhere! Son came after me at 11pm last nite and we went to a milk drinking party at his quarters. His roommate had brought a shipment of milk from Germany. It tasted like real milk for a wonder. I drank nearly a quart by myself -

Mom, I hate to mention wanting anything else but I think I need my white rug. There aren't any places to buy rugs here except big tasseled ones from the Arabs and I haven't much else to do but fix up my room. Of course the household goods haven't arrived yet, but we expect them in a couple of weeks - the other small

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package came that I mailed before
I left - so the rugs might beat the
household goods anyway. So,
if Grace can find a bathing suit
as I like I want she may as well
send them on because it won't
be long before we can use them.
I will need White Rose in a
month or so also. They don't have
our kind - only real heavy ugly
old things. I wear Luron Seamless
Mesh, size 10 1/2 - I think that's on
the size list. I feel awful about
asking for all this stuff - but
please keep account and I'll pay
for it all - plus the postage.
If you want to arrange the makeup
I asked for in the last letter,
you can, because I'm completely
out and the stuff I'm using is
breaking out my face! Don't
try to airmail the other stuff
because it will cost too much.

Polly is off today - for the first
weekend in ages, I think. Of course
the rest of us are working, so there's
not much for her to do, until someone
gets off at 3.

Well, I hope by now that Jeff
and Jill are OK from their I.A.'s.
It's a queer feeling to know I can't
pick up the phone and find
out right away. By the way, if

you should ever want to get in
touch with me quickly, the way
to do it is call the Red Cross
and tell them its an emergency
and my name, rank, Ser. Number
and address. They can get in
touch almost immediately. If you
tried to contact me through air force,
you'd be wasting time going through
red tape - So remember that. I
should have told you before I left.
I just got to thinking about it
when I knew the kids were
in the O.R. probably. I'm glad
they liked their clothes!

I got a letter from Jeanne
Long. She's back at Fort Bragg, D.C.
has another baby - same old
Jeanne - can't read her writing
so don't know if its #2 or #3, boy
or girl - some informative letter.

Well, the times near and the
jets are screaming by for their
afternoon flights, so I'll quit
and go nurse the ailing Air force.

Love you -
More later -
Betty

See, I'm hungry
for Cornbread.

We do have buttermilk so I may try
my luck if I can find meal.